

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

Hearing Date: March 25, 2021 8:00 AM

Printed on: March 29, 2021 4:17 PM

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

Nanette Fodell

self

Austin, TX

I am a VDR in Travis and Williamson Counties because I believe exercising our right to vote is the most American thing we can do. It is a fundamental right, and limiting access to voter registration, to polls -- whether you are limiting times and/or locations -- setting "poll tax" requirements around IDs is WRONG! ALL CITIZENS should have EASY access to voting, and that means EXPANDING access with mail-in ballots for anyone who wants it, weekend voting, continued support of VDRs (volunteer deputy registrars) and automatic and online registration (the latter of which is the LAW).

---

Cynthia Fodell Mott

Self

Galveston, TX

The GOP is resurrecting Jim Crow Laws. INSTEAD OF WORKING TOGETHER TO COME UP WITH IDEAS AND MEANINGFUL LEGISLATION.

VOTER SUPPRESSION IS THE ONLY WAY FOR THESE WHITE SUPREMACISTS TO "WIN."

---

Jordan Moser

Self

Wimberley, TX

Don't make it harder to vote! Texas already been cause being racist by the Supreme Court. Not again!!!

---

arnetta Murray

City of Iowa Colony, Tx Council

Rosharon, TX

Why are you guys playing with elections? Why? Play with our high taxes? In fact, suppress our taxes and leave our voting means and ways alone!

---

Carrie Galatas

Self

Shenandoah, TX

Voting, including registering to vote, should be made as easy and as accessible as possible. Participation in the political process is a cornerstone of a healthy democratic society. We should have automatic voter registration, same day voter registration, and

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

online voter registration. It should not be easier to buy a gun than it is to vote, which is the current situation in Texas. Texas can and should be a leader in making voting more accessible to all. I urge you to not make voting harder for the people of our great state. Do not pass laws that reduce the period of early voting, further limit voting by mail, or make registering to vote more difficult. Please do everything in your power to allow more Texans to participate in this most important civic duty. It is vital to the health of our state and country.

---

Dolores Odell

Self

Willis, TX

We must make changes so we can have fair elections in the future. What happened in November 2020, can never happen again. We need all these changes to make a difference. Signature verification and legal citizens only.

---

Andrea Love

Retired

Snyder, TX

Election integrity is paramount to our freedom!

---

Dan Killebrew

Self

Grapevine, TX

I strongly support our election integrity at the ballot box. It is my only voice.

---

Linda Rice

Convention of States

Denison, TX

I don't see how anyone can trust any voting machine ever again. Paper ballots are the only option I approve of.

---

Jonathan Cook, Mr

Self, Inventor, and energy managment.

McKinney, TX

When addressing criminal matters we should attach jeopardy to the leadership of the party of the voter fraud also as our nation requires integrity and morality to make this system work. I pray you include the officials and leaders who may seek of obtain reward in the matter of voter fraud. The fish rots from the head.

---

Jeff Thompson, Rev.

Texas Impact

Kyle, TX

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

I oppose HB 6 because of there too may things that voting rights advocates are still examining. There are too many provisions in the bill that would unfairly exclude voters.

---

David FELDWISCH

Self/Retired

HOUSTON, TX

Washington, Jefferson, Franklin say to all those attempting to restrict voting: SHAME!!!!

---

NANCY SCHNABEL

SELF, ACCOUNTANT

YANTIS, TX

If we cannot trust our elections, there will be no reason to vote, and our representative government dies. It is essential for our way of life to be able to have our elected representatives speak for us, to express our views, to support those ideas in which we believe. Every person voting MUST be a citizen and registered to vote, and ID MUST be checked to prevent fraud.

---

Jackie Moore

Self

Rockwall, TX

I support this bill

---

Tammy Starling

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose this voter suppression bill.

---

Lori Altebaumer, Mrs.

self

Dublin, TX

The opportunity to cast a vote in any election is a privilege that shouldn't be taken lightly. It is not a right guaranteed to all people in every nation, and if we don't steward this privilege well, we may soon loose it here as well. Requiring voter identification and installing safeguards against election fraud is not denying people the right to vote. It is communicating the fact that if someone cares about the election and our nation, they will be willing to go through the legal and appropriate procedures to cast a valid vote.

---

Mary Dorsey

self/retired associate professor

Canyon, TX

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

For me and others to have faith in the integrity of our elections going forward, the measures contained in this bill are essential. Our continuation of a free, democratic system depends on it.

---

Matthew Lynaugh

self

Austin, TX

I am opposed to these bills and SB7. We should not be erecting more barriers to voting.

---

Don Greenwell, Mr

myself

Fort Worth, TX

Election INTEGRITY for not only our peace of mind, but future generations.

---

Melissa Palomo-Ramon

Self

San Antonio, TX

The right to vote is sacred in this country and any attempt to hinder that right, whether by voter purges, decreasing voting sites or voting hours, or restricting voter registration is an attack on our democracy. Voting should be made easier and more convenient, not less so. Election integrity already exist and any attempt to curtail voting rights is blatant voter suppression.

---

Elizabeth Galiger

self. musician and teacher

Austin, TX

i was raised to believe democracy is a living thing, an action requiring citizen participation, a responsibility. i am in favor of everything that makes it easier for citizens to vote, from extended early voting, mail in and absentee voting, automatic voter registration, time off work to vote, etc. to be against these things is to be against the very concept of democracy.

---

Amy Ryder

Self / Self-Employed

Austin, TX

As a constituent who supports civic engagement, I urge you to vote against SB 7 and similar bills that would restrict our voting rights. SB 7 and HB 6 unduly impacts voters with disabilities, people transporting voters to the polls, and hourly workers.

Fair elections depend on many dedicated people who ensure that the process works for all. I trust election officials to make voting a positive experience. SB 7 greatly complicates the experience and risks making it a nightmare for many. It would instill fear where there should be trust. SB 7 and HB 6, and a great many bills with similar provisions, makes it more difficult for voters to maneuver the state's already complicated system. It fails to provide them confidence that their vote will be counted.

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

We saw great voter enthusiasm in 2020 and celebrated the significant increase in voter turnout, despite overwhelming challenges. Texas state and county election officials believe the results accurately reflect the will of the people. Texans want voting to be safe, easy, and accessible, and I urge you to reject these unwarranted bills.

I encourage you to support online voter registration and same-day voter registration that can save taxpayers money on the antiquated voter registration system in Texas, one of only 10 states that do not have online registration.

Thank you.

---

Brenda Bell

Retired

Austin, TX

I respectfully submit my opposition to HB 6. This is not an anti-election fraud bill. There is almost zero election fraud in Texas and existing statutes cover it. It is an anti-voting bill, intended to reduce voter turnout, especially among minority citizens and infrequent or inexperienced voters.

---

John Reiser

Retired Self

Austin, TX

Can we now, at long last, have an end to this inane chatter about election fraud? HB 6 is, at best, a solution in search of a problem. The greater likelihood is that it is a cynical attempt in the never-ending push for representatives to choose their voters, rather than relying on the American way, in which voters choose their public servants. Kill HB 6 and try persuasion instead of suppression.

---

Mellany Lamb

Self

Flower Mound, TX

Please ensure that the four main points of HB 6--1. Requirement of in-person voting for those who are not approved for absentee ballots to secure our elections; 2. Prohibit distribution of vote-by-mail applications (especially those that are deceptive); 3. ban ballot harvesting; and 4. increase poll watcher access at both the polling location AND the central elections administration office to improve transparency.

Two other improvements is to require voter identification (any form listed per the SoS) for mail-in and absentee ballots; and an annual verification of voter rolls and new registration. May be performed in the off-election year to purge voter rolls of deceased voters, relocated out of state, illegal voters, etc.

---

Cary Reynolds

Self. Realtor

Austin, TX

I am not aware of any voter fraud. Our democratic election process needs to be less restrictive not more. Mail-in ballots should be encouraged not discouraged for a number of reasons. Drop boxes are a great idea and should be plentiful, not outlawed. If I can be shown examples of voter fraud these changes might make sense - otherwise not.

---

Kebrá Albrecht

Self

Austin, TX

Please support HB 6. I have a friend who recently moved to Texas but still owns a house in Georgia. She received 4 unsolicited ballots for the 2020 election at her home in Georgia. I want to have confidence in our elections in Texas.

---

Tammy Blackwell

Self/retired, V.P. of Walker County Republican Women

Huntsville, TX

I believe and respect our Constitution. Election integrity is vital to our constitution and our state and country. It should include voter id, paper ballots, no connection to the internet, fraudproof election machinery, increased criminal penalties & creating criminal offenses, Secretary of State accountability for following rules & laws (not changing or creating new rules, etc.), no deceased voters on the rolls, no extra voters above the actual voter registration rolls allowed, no illegal immigrant voting allowed, no duplicate voting allowed, no early voting more than 2 days, no mail-in voting except thru procedural approval.

---

Kendall Kibby-Deck

Self, hairdresser

Austin, TX

Stop voter suppression. Make it easier to vote. Have automatic registration and rolling voting dates. Allow independent, non-affiliated boards to draw district maps by the numbers.

---

Maureen Thormann

Self

Austin, TX

I support expanded access to the ballot box. I support online voter registration, expanded voting hours and longer early voting periods. I support no-excuse vote by mail.??

---

Jennifer Carmack

Self, Small Business Owner

Magnolia, TX

These measures are not necessary and only complicates the voting process for people that intend to show up and vote. I am against these measures and find them a political game that has no merit.

---

Katie Rodgers

Self

Stephenville, TX

I have heard a lot about how Attorney General Ken Paxton is aggressively trying to pursue cases of alleged voter fraud - reading this bill, I'm worried that one little mistake could lead to even me being prosecuted, even though I didn't intend to defraud anyone. Giving poll watchers essentially unfettered access to a polling place and criminalizing election judges for not complying (even in a crowded polling place) is a solution in search of a problem. As a voter, I don't want them thinking they can look at things like my ID and that not letting them do that is illegal.

It was already hard enough to find a vote by mail application, and this bill would make it even harder, even for people who automatically qualify.

SB 7 would allow a poll watcher, upon their own determination, to record video of a voter who they believe to be receiving unlawful assistance. Given all the division there has been in the past two elections, I already feel nervous as is going in to vote, hoping there isn't going to be people who are trying to harass me or other voters. I couldn't imagine how invaded I would feel to have a poll watcher recording me without my consent because they don't believe the person assisting me with my ballot is legitimate.

Not all voters have the ability to pay for a doctor's visit just to be able to vote by mail. Many voters with disabilities often depend on a fixed income and may not be able to afford that.

Not all voters have daytime availability, in particular frontline workers and people who work odd hours, like me. Reducing the amount of time a polling place can be open does nothing to improve the integrity of our elections.

It was already hard enough to find a vote by mail application, and this bill would make it even harder, even for people who automatically qualify. Sometimes it feels like the state doesn't want me to vote.

---

Carol Cassady TCRRW, Mrs./ Pres. TX Cactus Rose Republican Women, El Paso

Self

El Paso, TX

1- We moved to TX from Seattle, WA, in 2006, because our Votes were stolen by Dems! 2- In 2002, Diebold voting machines used. In 2004: more ballots than registered voters; 3 runoffs Gov. race; ballots from all over world! 3- I was a Poll Watcher & totally shocked by BRAZEN CHEATING of the Dems! We called FBI, Justice Dept., AG, Pres. Bush for HELP! 4- July 2005: Diebold said YES - machines are HACKABLE, their online! 5- I & my Club DEMAND El Paso's voting ES&S (Elections Systems & Software) be AUDITED? It's same SOFTWARE Philadelphia uses! 6- WA State hasn't elected a Republican Gov. since 1985! COINCIDENCE?? NO! Brazen/amoral FRAUD! Just like our November 2020 Election! Where's JUSTICE? Audit all TX Voting Machines! CANCEL EARLY VOTING! Require Picture ID & Register 30 Days before Elections!

---

Angel Matthews, Mrs.

Heritage and Texit

China Spring, TX

2020 has to be corrected or there will never be another. And all of you will be out of a job!

---

Allison Raven

Self, graduate student

Austin, TX

I worked Texas elections in 2020: the May runoffs, and general election early voting and Election Day voting in November 2020. I was proud to serve as a poll worker and as an Election Day judge. Throughout my experience, I was consistently impressed with the organization and security of Texas elections. County clerks and their staffs across the state coordinate programs like the shared ID database to ensure that voters are able to proceed through the system quickly and clearly. As a poll worker, I knew that everyone I was providing a ballot to was a registered voter. I worked at a mega site with thousands of early votes, and we had not one instance of voter fraud. This bill is a sad reflection of how Texas lawmakers feel about Texans, and especially those of us who

step up to work the elections. It demonstrates that you do not believe in your poll workers or the robust systems that are already in place. Instead, this bill calls for voter suppression and for making elections more onerous for poll workers. If you do not believe in elections, how do you justify the legitimacy of your own election to your position? Texans have worked for decades to ensure our fair elections. I hope that you will choose to honor the work that I and others elections workers carry out by voting against this bill.

---

Crisarla Houston, Attorney-at-Law

Self, Attorney

Waco, TX

The Texas legislature's efforts to make it harder for Texans to vote are unconscionable and should cease. If changes are made to the voting procedures, those changes should go further to lift impediments to voting. Voting is a fundamental right in our democracy. Voters are watching you all over the state and nation. We will unite to vote you out of office if you support this egregious attack on voting rights. It is clear that your efforts to pass laws that make it harder for Texans to vote are aimed at people of color who do not typically vote Republican. This assault on Texans' voting rights for these baseless and unjust reasons will be remembered at the polls. Remove impediments to fair and impartial elections if you do anything to change Texas laws on voting. Cease this disgraceful effort to suppress votes, and accept that the will of the people will be expressed at the polls regardless of whether you agree or disagree with the people. Voters will become more educated and motivated to protect their interests at the polls. Voters will not be bullied or silenced. We have a right to vote and to participate in this representative democracy. Do not pass unjust laws to hinder our ability to vote. We are watching you and are ready to stand up for our right to vote every time the polls open. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do the right thing and stop all efforts to make it harder for Texans to vote. You have a moral obligation to do the right thing.

---

Cindy Kelley

self- full time grandparent- homeschooling

North Richland Hills, TX

Election Integrity is a must in our country and in our state! The government was formed for the people, it was never intended to rule the people. Americans and as Texans, we want our freedoms and civil liberties kept intact as the founding fathers of this great nation intended, without them we are just a communist country led by greedy politicians who do not want us to have a voice in who represents us as a people and accurately votes to represent our values.

If we do not have election integrity then all else is lost! We cannot allow illegals to vote, we cannot allow people who have no IDs to vote, we must not allow anyone under the age of 18 to vote because they are still figuring out life, what they believe and do they really fully understand the depth of the issues they are voting for? We must not allow mail in ballots except for our military and other special verified voters with the inability to vote in person. AND, we must ensure our absentee voters are properly and accurately counted. WE CANNOT ALLOW drive up voting without proper ID and we cannot allow ballots to be counted AFTER the election polls have closed!!! The democrats want to allow anyone to vote so they can continue to steal the votes and ultimately take away our God given rights and our freedoms to vote!

I want to know that my children, grandchildren and all future generations are allowed their voices to be heard and counted accurately, legally and fairly and that politicians remember they made into those positions by voters who trusted them to accurately represent their values. Rather than making government bigger and more powerful, lets give the rights back to the people and reduce government!!!

---

Kathy Turner

Self, retired

McGregor, TX

I support HB 6, HB 2057, HB 2197, HB 2318, HB 3285. I am particularly in support of laws to ensure that deceased persons and

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

other persons ineligible to vote do not vote.

---

Velvete Rojuginboka, Ms

Self- Registered Nurse

Highlands, TX

Stop Jim Grow

I need easy voting

---

Susan Gezana

Myself

Austin, TX

Please vote against this bill. Voting should be made easier and more accessible to all citizens

---

Leonard Foster, Mr.

Self

Richardson, TX

Dear State Rep. Briscoe Cain and Texas House Committee on Election Integrity,

I strongly support HB 6 and HB 2157 for the following reasons:

The provisions, requirements, prohibitions, and penalties included in HB 6 are very reasonable for ensuring valid election outcomes. They should be favored by all political candidates given the importance of elections to the state of Texas and the high investments of time and money made in campaigns. I am very much in favor of the contents of HB 6 in that they provide for public confidence in election results.

Honesty in our elections should be a high priority for all parties involved; it should be maintained; and exhibited by everyone.

Punishments need to be set so people do not ignore the laws. If they cheat and there are no consequences, the cheating continues.

HB 2157 Support

It is reasonable to have a voter identify what county they live in when casting a provisional ballot.

The citizens of Texas will not demonstrate buy-in and support for the proposals of elected officials if they know that elections can be won by persons voting in multiple counties. One duly registered voter, one ballot per election must be ensured for government laws and programs to be supported by a majority of citizens.

I am not able to appear in-person.

Thank you for your service to Texas.

Leonard Foster

Richardson, TX 75081

---

Courtney Hastings, RN

Self

Austin, TX

I am so disappointed that even in 2021, we are still having to ask our representatives to vote against voter suppression. But I am asking please do not pass bills that are made to hurt people, though minority, still are humans. Pray before you do anything and let God lead you. He is a God of love.

---

Cindy V Fountain

self/merchandiser

Cleburne, TX

Good morning,

I'm Cindy Fountain, and I live in zip 76033.

I want to register my opposition to HB 6. The crux of this bill is that it does not foster fair elections, nor a democratic society. It makes voting harder for our most vulnerable citizens, and it makes it harder for citizens, like me, to take an active part in the electoral process. I've been a volunteer deputy voter registrar and election monitor, and an elections worker, for almost 15 years. Voters, election workers and volunteers are needed to make elections fair in a democratic society, and again HB 6 is in direct opposition to this.

Thank you for taking my comment. and then acting on it for a free and fair democracy.

---

Peter Marocco

Texans for Election Integrity

Austin, TX

Election Integrity Reform is THE legislative priority

We are fed up with “go along to get along” “business as usual” state politics. Who is our Champion? We demand stronger statewide oversight, fraud reporting, training and standards for all officers, observers, poll workers or volunteers involved in elections. We must have real-time transparency of all voters and audits, increased security and preservation of records, deterrents and reduced opportunity for fraud; much more severe penalties for violators and more prosecutions. Only lawful Texas resident citizens with current picture state ID should participate in any aspect of our elections. We demand 100% transparency and auditability of all: ballots, records, systems and logs, hardware and software, to include contractors, all persons at polling stations, service providers and manufacturers; no judicial or executive waivers ever!

- 1) 100% Transparency and Auditability: Real-time accountability for open audit of voting records, and active security deterrents with much higher penalties for voter fraud, and the highest mandatory penalty for election fraud (over 20 ballots). Increase ID standards; instant fraud detection; real-time reporting of dead, duplicate or ineligible voters.
- 2) Early & Absentee Voting: Early voting must be eliminated or limited to no more than 2 days. End the gap between early voting and election day or early release of data; Sunday and Monday before an election day only. Voting Absentee should only be allowed for: (A) in-state residents with a severe physical disability, verified by a doctor within 90 days, and identity-checked by a notary, and (B) Texas resident active duty or activated military reserves outside the State on election day. Allowing anyone to vote absentee has opened the door to blatant and rampant fraud.
- 3) Restrain Computer Usage: Computer election fraud is real. We must return to paper ballots. Outlaw internet connection for all voting systems. Tabulation must be based only on the paper hand count (double-verified, certified by a supervisor with commissioned observers present, and mandatory state audits, all under severe penalties for fraud), no tabulation on computers except for real-time audit, ballot reconciliation, detection of fraud, dead voters, duplicate or repetitive voting, ineligible, or unregistered voters.
- 4) Federal & Tech Restraints: We demand a resolution that provides severe criminal penalties, fines, arrest or expulsion for any non-resident, to include any federal agency or social media entity, that advocates for or attempts: voter registration, vote-by-mail,

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

application distribution, prison registration, ballot distribution or harvesting, computer intrusion, foreign or external intervention.

We DEMAND our leaders and representatives stop federal over reach into Texas elections.

Texas Elections! Texas Stakeholders only! Who purged Dallas county votes in 2018 and 2020?

---

Laura Proske

Self Housekeeper

The Woodlands, TX

All the bills regarding Election integrity should be voted, discussed and approved. The disastrous elections that happened on 2020 should never ever occur again. To keep our democracy we have to protect our Constitution and the right of the people, as it was before the calamitous circus of November 3 rd 2020 election. I came from a country where we had a democracy, but after some politicians started to change the Constitution to perpetuate themselves in the government, we lost our Republic. They are still there through “elections “ held every 4 years, but they broke down the system and with it the Republic. DO NOT let that happen here! People like me, we are watching all what’s happening here with astonishment, we cannot believe how the best democracy of the world is being demolished from within.

I cannot be there. Steve Toth is my representative, I urge you to fight, that’s why I gave you my vote. And I urge to fight for our beloved country to all the Republican Party representatives! God gave us the freedom but if we don’t fight for it, we will be slaves for the rest of our lives.

---

Harry Chou

Self, engineer

Austin, TX

Free and fair elections for Texans, stop suppressing our votes! I’m sick of moving across congressional and state rep districts when I go to the grocery store, walk to the park, go to work. The gerrymander y’all have done to us is an abomination.

---

Jennifer Lane

Self

Denton, TX

This is a bad bill. The point was repeatedly made that there are a minuscule number of claims, let alone viable cases. And convictions in even large counties have been zero, except for the example given in which a false conviction occurred. “Claims” is being conflated as “cases,” which there is not. Turnout is increasing. Voter Fraud is not. In addition, the analogy of calling in the CEO of a chain of a statewide chain of medical centers to attend to a cut, rather than leaving it to the attending physician was apt. The intrusion of the AG’s office into local proceedings before claims have been processed by local DAs is uncalled for and, as shown by the case of Susanne Wooten, potentially very damaging. Vote no on this bill.

---

Delight Hogan

Self

Frisco, TX

I volunteered as an election clerk this past cycle. I am intimately familiar with the voting process in Texas both from a voter and a volunteer stand point. This was a secure election. The incidents of fraud are rare to nonexistent. The measures in this bill amount

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

to suppression and I am vehemently opposed. STOP making it harder for Texans to vote.

---

Jean Northrup

Self, retired accountant

Humble, TX

Please add this to the HB6

- Require voter identification for mail-in and absentee ballots
  - Routine verification of voter rolls and new registrations and remove dead people
- 

Chandra Gocool, Self

Self

The Woodlands, TX

Please pass and support HB 6 Thank you!

---

Wilma Joy PUTNAM, Mrs.

Self

Georgetown, TX

I support HB-6 but I believe it needs to address the powers of the Texas Secretary of State in view of the fact that five of the six states with the most " FRAUD or VOTING IRREGULARITIES" in the 2020 election had Secretaries of State who waived long held voting laws as passed by the states' Legislatures -- thus allowing these "fraud or voting irregularities" to occur. Furthermore, the TX Secretary of State has a long history of waiving the requirement for counties to skip running zero tapes.

---

Marianne Arnold

Self

Kurten, TX

I believe that all qualified adults should be able to vote. Voting should not be limited to the able bodied, those with transportation, or those who work 8 to 5 and can afford to wait for hours in long lines. HB 6 limits the ability of those people to vote and is deeply antidemocratic. It protects incompetent and corrupt public servants from accountability. Please vote against HB 6.

---

Melissa Lum

Self- Due Diligence Analyst

Coppell, TX

I am testifying against HB6

I have lived in Texas since birth and I am alarmed by the press of bills that appear to create obstacles for a citizens right to vote. As a citizen and as a believer in representative government, I hold the right to vote sacrosanct since it is the key way in which all citizens can directly affect government. I believe so much in the right to vote that I have volunteered my time since 2017 to help

register people to vote and have even spent countless hours helping people who could not afford state IDs under Texas law to get them so they would be able to recognize their right.

Under HB6, would create an affirmative right for the presence of politically appointed pollwatcher to be there as long as they keep their behavior to anything short of election fraud. The definition of election fraud only prohibits threats or harm to the voters by unlawful acts. It does not prohibit other forms of harassment that could discourage a legitimate voter from exercising their rights and this bill would prohibit an election judge from removing or stop a poll watcher from recording voters even if they were harassing or intimidating voters as long as they didn't use illegal acts to do so.

HB6 is also so broad that it could stop political parties, candidates and civic organizations from sending our voters key voting resources, such as mail ballot applications. I help people register to vote regardless of party or partisan leaning and receive no compensation for my work. However this is still tedious and time consuming work for the public good and this bill prohibits civic organizations from hiring and training people to distribute voting materials to make sure everyone can provide required documents and exercise their right to vote. This bill would prevent me from sending out voting resources to prospective voters in my area. Many people particularly those who are suffering disabilities do not know their rights or the resources they could use to help them vote. This bill also prohibits civic organizations stepping up to help their voters where the county does not have the funds to do so.

We should be encouraging every eligible voter to exercise their right to vote and make it easier for them to figure out how to do it the right way. This bill only makes it harder and installs watchers who may harass them without repercussions.

for these reasons, I urge this committee and the house to reject HB6.

---

Margarita Gonzalez

Self

Donna, TX

SB 7 and HB 6 are clear attempts at restricting the ability and accessibility of voting. This is not a step in the right direction and it is disappointing to see lawmakers spend time and energy trying to restrict the vote. There are many other issues that demand attention, and as part of your constituency, I am asking that you reconsider your priorities. Do not pass these bills. Texans deserve innovative and various ways to be able to cast their hard-earned votes. Thank you.

---

Cynthia Gatewood, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

I am against HB 6. It would unnecessarily restrict the ability of certain groups of people and their ability to their right to vote! Narrow the window to vote is not acceptable. VOTE SUPPRESSION!

---

Gloria Mendoza

self community organizer

Fort Worth, TX

This bill is a blatant attack on voting rights, this bill perpetuates racism and inequality. Attacking our democracy doesn't make our state, our country stronger, people's voices make us stronger. The outrage I feel at this voter suppression is painful, the amount of things we could be putting our energy and efforts into instead of fighting these bills is endless. Yet here we are again fighting for basic human rights, you're scared of people voting because you're scared of us picking the leaders we deserve. But we will not budge.

COMMENTS FOR: The Committee will hear invited testimony on elections.

---

---

Thomas Morgan

Self

Tyler, TX

I am in full agreement with this bill in it's current form. The integrity of our elections is essential to maintaining our Republic. I urge the committee to pass this bill as soon as possible. Thank you.

---

Aurelia Askew, Ms.

Concerned voter

Houston, TX

Texas is a state that stands for freedom. Voter suppression does not belong in our state.

---